

for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HULTGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Nation's very first public community college, Joliet Junior College, on its 115th anniversary.

Two Illinois community leaders, J. Stanley Brown and William Rainey Harper, founded the college in 1901 to provide high school graduates the fruits of higher education without forcing them to leave their communities. Over the next 20 years, JJC grew from 6 enrolled students to almost 100, and it later evolved its curriculum to include business, technological, and industrial education.

With the end of the wars, JJC and other 2-year institutions served vital educational roles for veterans who were returning to their communities. Joliet Junior College inspired an entirely new model for higher education, one that suited the needs of both the Nation and its citizens, one that allowed both flexibility and quality, and one that continues to be urgently relevant today.

Brown and Harper's vision of community-organized, community-focused education has since become a touchstone for millions of young American students. This year, the 14th District of Illinois honors Joliet Junior College for its pivotal role in the advancement of higher education in America.

DOING THE WORK OF THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, normally, I would be having a colloquy with the majority leader about the schedule for the week to come, but there is no schedule for the week to come, and there is no schedule for 6 weeks thereafter. We were scheduled to meet tomorrow to do the business of the American people. We will not meet that schedule, and we will not meet the schedule of doing the business of America for those who are concerned about the epidemic of gun violence in America, not even the small but meaningful and important steps of making sure that, if you can't fly, you can't buy a gun, to make sure that the background checks are universal and comprehensive so that dangerous people do not get guns.

We will not do the business of those who are confronting being bitten by a mosquito and having the risk of having a child who is deeply disabled, nor will we do the business of those thousands of children in Flint, Michigan, and of the people in Flint, Michigan, who still, 2 years later, do not have clean water to drink.

Mr. Speaker, my colleagues and I sit here, ready to do the business of our country. We sit here, ready to address those critical public health issues that confront our country—of gun violence,

of Zika, of Flint, and of water that is not drinkable and that will damage our children.

Mr. Speaker, the American people will see that there is a party here that is willing to work and protect them every day; so my colleagues will, one after another, express their own views as to what this House ought to be doing.

We ought not to have taken a walk on the American people. We ought to be sitting here, doing the work of the American people. Yes, we will go to a convention, and we will tell them that we are going to protect them, that we are going to make their lives better. We can do so right here, right now.

COBRA ZONES

(Mr. YOHO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. YOHO. Mr. Speaker, in 2012, constituents of mine, the Welberrys, purchased a home in Cedar Key, Florida. Two years later, their Federal flood insurance was canceled retroactively due to a determination that the property was partially located within a COBRA zone. For over 12 years, this property was zoned outside of the adjacent COBRA zone, and, for 12 years, it was covered by the Federal flood insurance.

Yet, as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife updates its maps, the Welberrys' entire retirement investment is threatened due to the government's inconsistency. The Welberrys' home did not move—just the map of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife.

Mrs. Welberry pleaded: The government cannot be allowed to erase our life savings like this.

If you want to talk about covering preexisting conditions, how many constituents are going through this nightmare?

Congress needs to know. Chairman CALVERT and the Appropriations Committee agree; and our amendment, which requires the U.S. Fish and Wildlife to conduct a study on how COBRA zones affect private property, was accepted last night. Congress needs to know.

A VOTE ON NO FLY, NO BUY

(Mr. THOMPSON of California asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, Republican leaders are recessing the House for 7 weeks without their taking a single vote on legislation to help stop the mass gun violence that has become far too common in our country.

More than 30 people are killed every day by someone who uses a gun. Do the math. That means, by the time the House comes back from the summer recess, in 52 days, over 1,560 Americans may have been killed by someone who was using a gun.

We can't wait for more innocent lives to be cut short by someone using a gun. We need to vote on bipartisan, pro-Second Amendment no fly, no buy and comprehensive background check legislation to help keep guns away from those who shouldn't have them—terrorists, criminals, domestic abusers, and the dangerously mentally ill.

Mr. Speaker, it is wrong; it is irresponsible; it is dangerous to send us home without giving us a vote on this important bipartisan legislation. Give us a vote. Let us do the work that the American people sent us here to do.

HONORING MRS. JACK KOESTER

(Mr. SHIMKUS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SHIMKUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge over 40 years of exceptional pro-life and pro-family efforts by Mrs. Jack Koester of Teutopolis, Illinois.

In June of 1973, a group of concerned residents came together to found the Effingham County Right. Mrs. Koester has served as the secretary of that group ever since.

As secretary, she has issued a monthly newsletter, has helped the organization grow through its breakfast and rummage sale, has hosted an annual day of prayer, has organized the Life Chain, has manned the pro-life booth, and has publicized the monthly prayer vigil. Mrs. Koester also cofounded the Family Life Center in Effingham 20 years ago.

After suffering a stroke last fall, she is still recovering and has shifted her focus to encouraging other citizens of the Effingham area to volunteer so as to carry on her pro-life efforts.

Mrs. Koester is a mother of 3, a grandmother of 10, and a great-grandmother of 2. One of her granddaughters is currently an intern in my office.

I want to personally thank Mrs. Koester for her lasting dedication to the pro-life movement, and I wish her the best in her ongoing recovery.

REPUBLICANS ABANDON AMERICANS

(Mr. KILDEE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today, the Republicans are leaving Washington for almost 2 months—the longest congressional summer recess in nearly 60 years—and are abandoning Americans, who are counting on us to do what we have to do to protect them.

There are serious public health crises in this country, and, right now, the GOP-led Congress continues to fail to do anything at all to protect the basic functions of government—to protect human life, to protect Americans.

Families in my own hometown of Flint, Michigan, today, can't drink their water. They don't have access to